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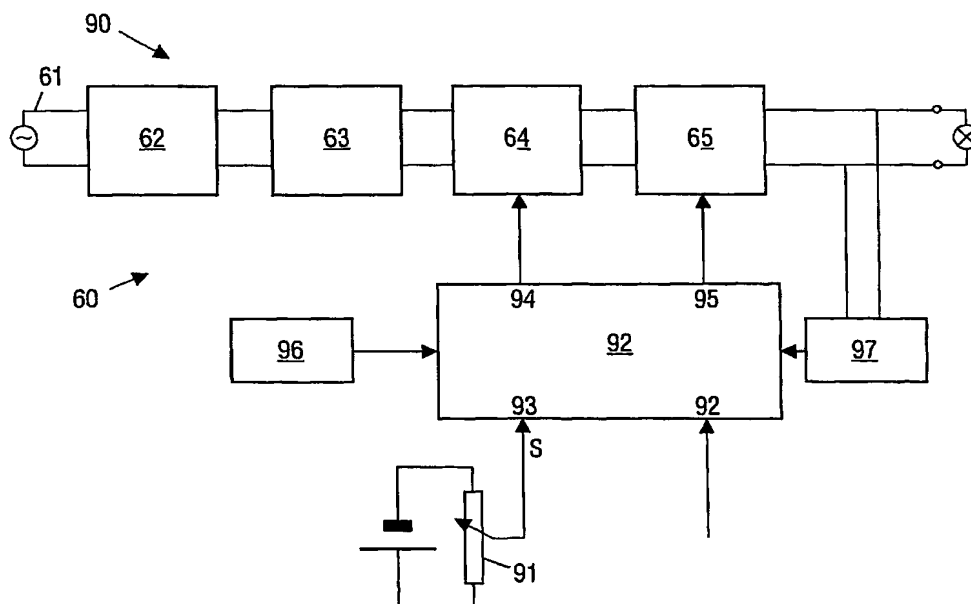
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DRIVING A METAL HALIDE LAMP



(57) Abstract: A method is described for driving a gas discharge lamp (1), specifically a HID lamp, more specifically a metal halide lamp, most specifically a metal halide lamp with an aspect ratio larger than 3 or even 4. The lamp is supplied with a commutating DC current having a duty cycle (D) and an average current intensity (I_{AV}) at a certain electrical output power. The method comprises the step of varying the average current intensity (I_{AV}) and the electrical output power in order to vary the color temperature of the lamp. Preferably, the average current intensity (I_{AV}) is changed by changing the duty cycle (D), and the electrical output power is varied in relation to the average current intensity (I_{AV}).



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